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October 20, 2003

22581 U.S. PTO  
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**TOTAL FILING FEE** ..... \$856.00

A check for the statutory filing fee of \$856.00 is attached. Please charge or credit any difference or overpayment to Deposit Account No. 16-0877. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and §1.17 which may be required during the entire pendency of the application to said Account.

Priority is claimed from October 21, 2002, based on German Application No. 102 49 626.9 and German Application No. 102 61 992.1.

Respectfully submitted,

PENDORF & CUTLIFF  
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By 

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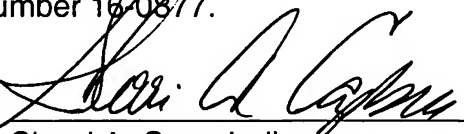
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I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing cover letter including the specification, claims, abstract, Declaration and Power of Attorney and a stamped receipt post card are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 on the date indicated and is addressed: **ATTN: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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Sherri A. Campbell

U.S. Application No.:  
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Attorney Docket: 3975.024

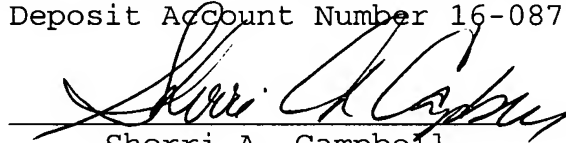
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Sherri A. Campbell